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Richard Daniels  
in charge

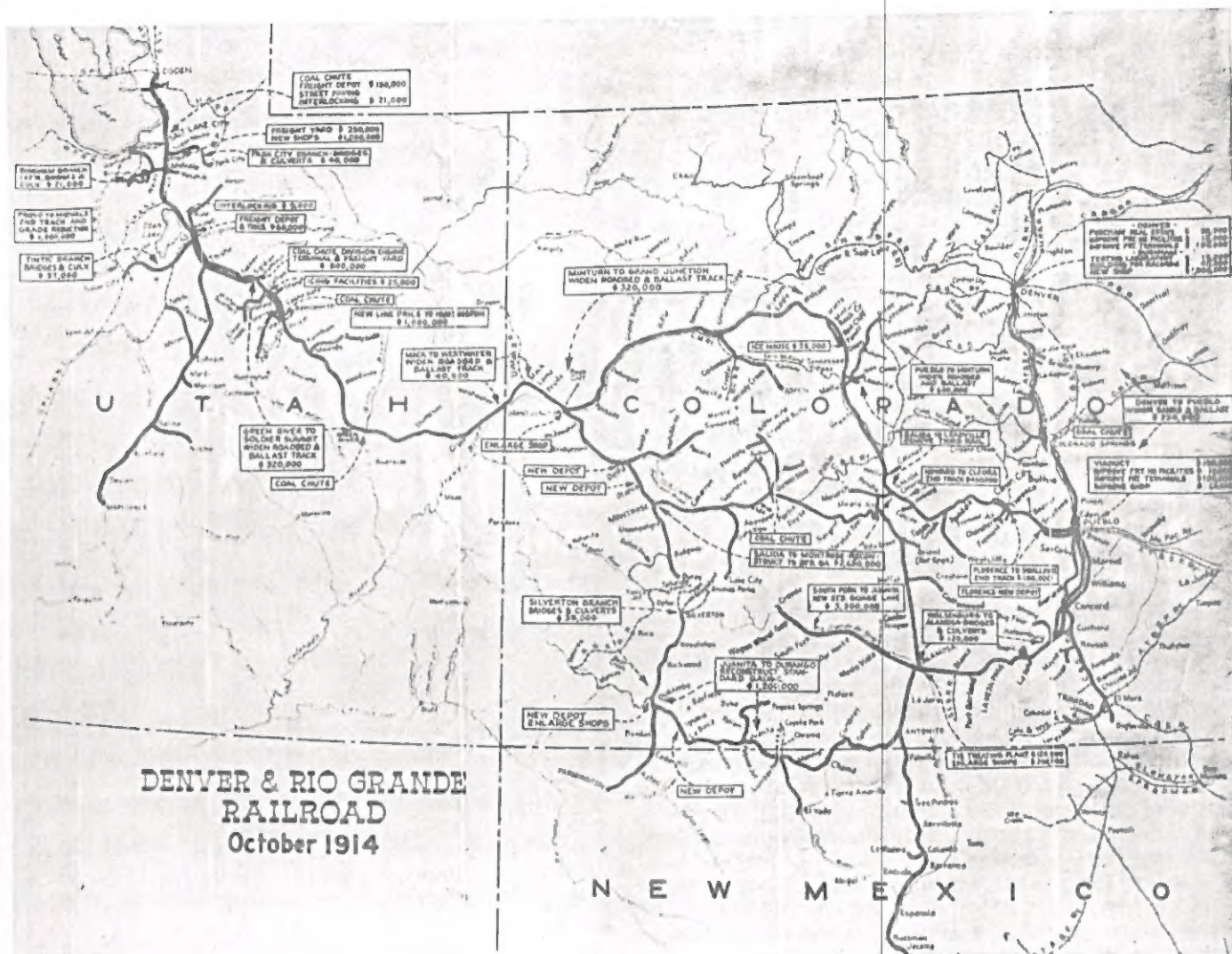
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IN 1914 THE RIO GRANDE RAILROAD served the greater part of Colorado and northern New Mexico with steel rails stretching into almost every canyon tapping the mines and bringing new wealth to the area. (Not to be reproduced without permission of John Norwood.)

mouth of the South Arkansas, proceeding up the main Arkansas Valley to the summit of the range between the Arkansas and Grand River Valleys; thence by the Grand Valley or other tributary of the "Great Colorado River" to the western border of Colorado and to Salt Lake City.

(4) The Moreno Valley Railway: from the main line near the mouth of Costilla in northern New Mexico to the mines and pineries of the Maxwell estate.

(5) The San Juan Railway: starting on the main line "near or accessible to the Valley of the Chama" or other western Rio Grande tributary to the San Juan Valley in northwestern New Mexico and southwestern Colorado.

(6) The Gallisteo Railway: beginning at a point on the main line in New Mexico between Santa Domingo and San Domingo and San Felipe Indian Pueblos and extending thence by the most eligible route to the gold mines and anthracite coal fields of the Placer Mountains.

(7) The Santa Rita Railway: commencing on the main line between Fort Craig and El Paso in New Mexico and extending westerly to the mines of Pinos Altos and Santa Rita, and to the silver mines of the Burro Mountains.

In 1870 Denver, proposed as Milepost 1, had a population of 4,759 persons; Santa Fe, four hundred miles to the south and the largest community on the proposed railway at the time, counted but 4,765 inhabitants. Between these two contemplated terminals there were possibly 10,000 widely scattered persons, mostly small ranches, subsistence farmers, miners, Mexican settlers, prospectors and mountain men. By counting Indians the total might have reached as high as 15,000. Colorado Springs, Manitou, El Moro and Alamosa had not as yet been founded; Colorado City was but a collection of shacks housing an estimated eighty-one persons; the population of Pueblo was less than 1,000, and Trinidad — on the Santa Fe Trail — was a lusty village of between 500 and 600 souls.

Incorporation accomplished, Palmer staffed his Road with his friends and went to work. In January, 1871, Dr. Bell wrote to an English land speculator, William Blackmore: "We are thoroughly in earnest about this enterprise, the grading has already commenced. . . ." Maybe grading had started but it would be July 28 before the first spike was driven because of the delay in obtaining and transporting English iron rails to build the railway. By the first of September the thirty-



# RIO GRANDE, MAINLINE OF THE ROCKIES -- Appendix

1897

## CORPORATIONS:

UTAH CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY incorporated December 29, 1897 in the State of Utah. Mill Creek to Willford, Utah.

UTAH EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY incorporated December 29, 1897 in the State of Utah. Provo Canyon Branch between Mile Post 11 and Heber, Utah.

## CONSTRUCTION:

Second Track Soldier Summit to Tucker (Near De-tour). Original location on 4% grade.

1898

No construction during the year.

Sugar House (Mill Creek) to Park City leased from Salt Lake and Eastern Railway Company NG

1899

## CORPORATIONS:

RIO GRANDE PAGOSA AND NORTHERN RAILROAD COMPANY incorporated April 28, 1899 in State of Colorado. Pagosa Springs Branch.

CARBON COUNTY RAILWAY COMPANY incorporated November 20, 1899 in the State of Utah. Mounds to Sunnyside and Scofield to Clear Creek, Utah.

## CONSTRUCTION:

Sunnyside Branch SG

NG to SG La Veta to Alamosa via relocated line over La Veta Pass. New location between La Veta and Wagon Creek Junction (Russell) Grade and curve reductions.

Pleasant Valley Branch Scofield to Clear Creek SG  
Provo Canyon Branch Provo to Mile Post 11 constructed by Utah Eastern Railway Company. SG

## REMOVALS:

Old NG line between La Veta and Russell via Veta Pass abandoned.

1900

## CORPORATIONS:

THE RIO GRANDE RAILROAD COMPANY incorporated July 17, 1900 in the State of Colorado. Construction company for Westcliffe Branch from Texas Creek to Westcliffe, North Fork Branch from Delta to Somerset, and Loma Branch.

## CONSTRUCTION:

Second Track Pueblo West to Mile Post 121.58  
3-Rail

3rd Rail Alamosa to Monte Vista

Near Sevier to Marysville SG

Upper 15 miles of Provo Canyon Branch purchased from Utah Eastern Railway Company.

Roper to Mill Creek (Sugar House) SG

NG to SG Mill Creek to Park City. Purchased by Rio Grande Western Railway Company

Pagosa Springs Branch NG

Texas Creek to Westcliffe Westcliffe Branch SG

1901

## CORPORATIONS:

THE RIO GRANDE SANGRE DE CRISTO RAILROAD COMPANY incorporated January 8, 1901 in the State of Colorado. Moffat to Cottonwood, Colorado.

CASTLE VALLEY RAILWAY COMPANY incorporated January 15, 1901 in the State of Utah. Salina to Nioche.

COPPER BELT RAILROAD COMPANY incorporated May 18, 1901 in the State of Utah. Tracks to Yampa Smelter, Utah.

## CONSTRUCTION:

3rd Rail Monte Vista to Del Norte

3rd Rail Alamosa to Antonito

Dalton to Lark, constructed by others.

Moffat to Cottonwood NG

1902

## CORPORATIONS:

THE RIO GRANDE, PUEBLO AND SOUTHERN RAILROAD COMPANY incorporated April 21, 1902 in the State of Colorado. Zinc Junction to Blende, Colorado.

## CONSTRUCTION:

Second track MP 121.85 to Goodnight 3-Rail

Delta to Somerset NG

NG to SG Del Norte to Creede SG

Copper Belt Branch SG

Zinc Jct. to Blende SG

NG to SG Castle Rock to Hathaway

## REMOVALS:

Middle Rail removed Denver to Pueblo

Middle Rail removed Ft. Logan Branch

Middle Rail removed Arkansas Valley Sampler to Zinc Mines

La Veta to Russell Old NG line over Veta Pass removed.

Middle Rail removed, Alamosa to Del Norte

Douglas Quarry Spur NG removed

1903

## CONSTRUCTION:

Denver to Orestod via Corona Pass. (Completed in 1907 by DNW&P RR) (Colorado Construction Co.)

Second Track Rex to Minturn

Second Track Midvale to Salt Lake

Dalton to Lark Purchased.

Copper Belt-Carr Fork Branch to Yampa Mine

Lumberton to El Vado NG By Rio Grande and Southwestern Railroad Co.

Howard Quarry Spur Howard to Calcite SG

Salina to Nioche SG